

WisDOT Marquette Interchange Coordination Team Meeting

DATE: November 25, 2003

FROM: Annette Llanas, Marquette Interchange Team

The meeting was held on November 19th at 1:00 PM at the Amtrak Station, Community Room.

Introductions: Les Fafard, District Director, WisDot-D2 welcomed the group. Fafard highlighted how WisDOT's largest project in state's history will **not** be doing business as usual. He stated that the project would be done differently through bridging functional areas, increasing workforce and ensuring that the communications to our partners are strong. Following his opening remarks, Fafard introduced WisDOT's Deputy Secretary, **Ruben Anthony, Jr.**

Anthony emphasized that all groups represented in this effort are to keep each other well informed of upcoming events that would impact opportunities for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) groups. He stated that teamwork and communication is key in this ongoing effort.

Randy Romanski, WisDOT's Executive Secretary, stressed the importance of communication and ensuring that DOT staff is notified of contacts made with local leadership and Legislature regarding the Marquette Interchange Project. Please contact either Emlynn Grisar by phone at (262) 521-5373 or by email at emlynn.grisar@dot.state.wi.us, or, Aileen Switzer by phone at (262) 548-8767 or by email at aileen.switzer@dot.state.wi.us.

Donna Brown, Systems Planning Manager, discussed the goals and purpose for the meetings and each participant's roles and responsibilities

1. Meetings will be held once a month in December and January, then increase to twice per month beginning in February of 2004. The following dates are reserved at the Amtrak Station, MTP Community Room-East/West from 9 to Noon:
 - December 4,
 - January 15,
 - February 5 and 19,
 - March 4 and 18,
 - April 1 and 15,
 - May 6 and 20, and
 - June 3 and 17.
2. At the beginning of each meeting there will be an opportunity for everyone to bring forward critical items for discussion.
3. Each team member will come prepared to share with other team members and the Marquette engineering team the results of their public contact/outreach successes, issues and obstacles and any comments received during those presentations.
4. Each meeting will become a venue for asking questions as to what is working and what is not working and how can we better serve the community with job opportunities for DBE's. As a *progress meeting*, each group will discuss their progress toward achieving their individual goals and responsibilities, as well as discuss opportunities for coordinated efforts.

Presentations:

David Nguyen, Project Manager of the Marquette Interchange Team gave a presentation of the project's overview. Demonstrating that the Marquette Interchange is a cornerstone of Milwaukee's downtown area and a gateway to the State.

Joyce Harms, Sr. Public Involvement Rep, Milwaukee Transportation Partners (MTP) discussed key elements of Public Involvement including the Public Information & Communications Implementation schedule regarding tools and techniques for public outreach such as Hmong family clan gatherings using the spoken word to convey Marquette activities, kiosks for downtown employers, and advertising on Hispanic radio. (See draft Public Information & Communications Implementation Schedule handout)

Eugene Johnson, Director, Bureau of Equity and Environmental Services, (BEES) discussed how the DBE and Labor capacity programs assist in further developing firms certified as DBE's, enhances the opportunity to partner with other firms, and encourages firms not yet certified in addition to developing skilled laborers in order to increase the workforce needed for current and future needs and retention in the large metro area of South East Wisconsin.

Capacity Building Program Overview included presentations by:

- Business Development – Jaya Sharma, D-Business Development Consultants, LLC (see DBE Capacity Building handout)
- Labor Development - Jim Zegers and Michele Carter-Rutledge, Bureau of Equity and Environmental Services (see Labor Initiative handout)

Randy Knoche, Contract Manager, Bureau of Financial Services, presented the Financial Overview identifying the different contract types. Emphasizing the payment cycle to the Primes and cycle to the subcontractors. (See Invoicing Procedures handout)

Recent Actions: A news release announced to the public the unbundling of large contracts into several smaller bid packages in order to provide smaller companies the chance to compete for the work on the Marquette Interchange project. The Marquette Interchange is part of the Department's effort to support Governor Jim Doyle's Grow Wisconsin initiative to create economic growth. The projects and goals include:

- 28th Street ramp – 20 percent DBE goal;
- Becher Street ramp – 35 percent DBE goal;
- Clybourn Street reconstruction – 27 percent DBE goal; and
- Clybourn Street sidewalk and landscaping – 60 percent DBE goal.

(See WisDOT News handout)

Next Meeting

Thursday, December 4th, 2003 at 9:00 AM at Amtrak Station, 3rd floor Community Room - East/West.

Note: Due to the holiday weekend, PowerPoint documents can be viewed on the Internet
December 1, 2003 at: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/d2/marquette/index.htm>

